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21186 7590 01/12/2009

SCHWEGMAN, LUNDBERG & WOESSNER, P.A.
P.O. BOX 2938
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402

EXAMINER

HOANG, HIEU T

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2452

DATE MAILED: 01/12/2009

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/663,204

09/15/2003

Vipul Ved Prakash

2710.005US1

2360

TITLE OF INVENTION: METHOD AND APPARATUS TO ENABLE MASS MESSAGE PUBLICATIONS TO REACH A CLIENT EQUIPPED WITH A FILTER

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1510	\$0	\$0	\$1510	04/13/2009

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE DOES NOT REFLECT A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE IN THIS APPLICATION. IF AN ISSUE FEE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PAID IN THIS APPLICATION (AS SHOWN ABOVE), THE RETURN OF PART B OF THIS FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST TO REAPPLY THE PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE TOWARD THE ISSUE FEE NOW DUE.

HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

B. If the status above is to be removed, check box 5b on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL, or its equivalent, must be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted. If an equivalent of Part B is filed, a request to reapply a previously paid issue fee must be clearly made, and delays in processing may occur due to the difficulty in recognizing the paper as an equivalent of Part B.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL

**Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: Mail Mail Stop ISSUE FEE
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INSTRUCTIONS: This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 5 should be completed where appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent, advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address as indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee notifications.

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21186 7590 01/12/2009

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I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop ISSUE FEE address above, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated below.

(Depositor's name)
(Signature)
(Date)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/663,204 09/15/2003 Vipul Ved Prakash 2710.005US1 2360

TITLE OF INVENTION: METHOD AND APPARATUS TO ENABLE MASS MESSAGE PUBLICATIONS TO REACH A CLIENT EQUIPPED WITH A FILTER

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
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nonprovisional NO \$1510 \$0 \$0 \$1510 04/13/2009

EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS
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HOANG, HIEU T 2452 709-206000

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).

- ☐ Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.
- ☐ "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. **Use of a Customer Number is required.**

2. For printing on the patent front page, list

- (1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively, 1 _____
- (2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed. 2 _____
- 3 _____

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document has been filed for recordation as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE (B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY)

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent) : ☐ Individual ☐ Corporation or other private group entity ☐ Government

4a. The following fee(s) are submitted:

- ☐ Issue Fee
- ☐ Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted)
- ☐ Advance Order - # of Copies _____

4b. Payment of Fee(s); (Please first reapply any previously paid issue fee shown above)

- ☐ A check is enclosed.
- ☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.
- ☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the required fee(s), any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number _____ (enclose an extra copy of this form).

5. Change in Entity Status (from status indicated above)

- ☐ a. Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27. ☐ b. Applicant is no longer claiming SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)(2).

NOTE: The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant; a registered attorney or agent; or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

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Date _____

Typed or printed name _____

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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/663,204	09/15/2003	Vipul Ved Prakash	2710.005US1	2360
21186	7590	01/12/2009	EXAMINER	
SCHWEGMAN, LUNDBERG & WOESSNER, P.A. P.O. BOX 2938 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402			HOANG, HIEU T	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2452	
DATE MAILED: 01/12/2009				

Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b) (application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 833 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 833 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (<http://pair.uspto.gov>).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at 1-(888)-786-0101 or (571)-272-4200.

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/663,204	PRAKASH, VIPUL VED	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	HIEU T. HOANG	2452	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the communication filed on 10/21/2008.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 19, 21, 23-25, 27-30, 32-35.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: ____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date ____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date ____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date ____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date ____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other ____. |

/Kenny S Lin/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2452

DETAILED ACTION

This office action is in response to the communication filed on 10/21/2008.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Dag Johansen on 12/15/2008, followed by an examiner's facsimile of proposed examiner amendment. The attorney responded on 12/22/2008 that the proposed examiner amendment was agreed upon.

Claim 26 substantially duplicates claim 19. Therefore, the claim is cancelled and dependent claims 27-29 will be amended to be dependent on claim 19.

Subject matter of claims 20 and 22 is incorporated to claim 19. Therefore, claims 20 and 22 are cancelled.

Subject matter of claim 31 is incorporated to claim 30. Therefore, claim 31 is cancelled.

The claims have been amended as follows:

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1-18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently Amended) A method to filter an electronic publication published by a content publisher, the method comprising:

the content publisher registering the electronic publication with a server, the registering of the electronic publication including:

assigning to the electronic publication, a randomly selected unique address to the electronic publication which the content publisher is to deliver content associated with the electronic publication;

assigning a publication identification (ID) to electronic publication, and registering content of the electronic publication [[based on]] by computing a signature of the content and associating the signature with the electronic publication via the publication ID;

receiving a further content at a client;

receiving, at the server, a request from [[a]] the client ~~a request~~ to determine whether the further content is registered; wherein the request including a further signature of the further content;

determining that the further content is registered by using the further signature as a key to search for the signature at the server via the publication ID;

providing the client with the publication ~~(ID)~~ ID based on determining that the further content is registered; the publication ID allowing the client to associate the

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further content with the electronic publication; ~~and to determine that the electronic publication is included in a subscribed list stored on the client.~~

wherein the publication ID allowing the client to automatically move the further content into a client inbox if the further electronic publication is on a subscribed list stored on the client; and the publication ID allowing the client to automatically block or move the further content into a client spam folder if the further electronic publication is on an unsubscribed list stored on the client.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Previously Presented) The method as set forth in claim 19, wherein the content publisher is remote from the client.

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Currently Amended) A method to manage mass electronic publication delivery, the method comprising:

~~assigning to a publication, a unique address to which a respective content publisher is to deliver content associated with the publication;~~

~~assigning a publication identification (ID) to the publication and associating the publication ID with a signature of the content; and~~

~~receiving a request from a client to determine if the content identified in the request is associated with the publication that is on a subscribed list maintained by the client; and~~

~~sending the publication ID to the client based on determining that the content is associated with the publication, the publication ID allowing the client to determine that the electronic publication is included in a subscribed list stored on the client, and to move the content to a client inbox.~~

a content publisher registering a electronic publication with a server, the registering of the electronic publication including:

assigning to the electronic publication, a randomly selected unique address to which the content publisher is to deliver content associated with the electronic publication;—

assigning a publication identification (ID) to electronic publication, and registering content of the electronic publication by computing a signature of the content and associating the signature with the electronic publication via the publication ID;

receiving a further content at a client;

receiving, at the server, a request from [[a]] the client to determine whether the further content is registered; wherein the request including a further signature of the further content;

determining that the further content is registered by using the further signature as a key to search for the signature at the server via the publication ID;

providing the client with the publication ID based on determining that the further content is registered; the publication ID allowing the client to associate the further content with the electronic publication;

wherein the publication ID allowing the client to automatically move the further content into a client inbox if the further electronic publication is on a subscribed list stored on the client; and the publication ID allowing the client to automatically block or move the further content into a client spam folder if the further electronic publication is on an unsubscribed list stored on the client.

24. (Previously Presented) The method as set forth in claim 23, further comprising:

receiving input related to the content from a plurality of separate clients; and
rating the content based on the input, wherein the rating provides an indication of whether the content is spam.

25. (Previously Presented) The method as set forth in claim 24, further comprising sending the rating to a further client to determine a default characterization of the content by the further client.

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Currently Amended) The method as set forth in claim ~~[[26]]~~ 19, wherein the registering of the publication includes associating a publication name with the publication ID and ~~[[a]]~~ the randomly selected unique address to which the content is delivered by the content provider.

28. (Currently Amended) The method as set forth in claim ~~[[26]]~~ 19, wherein the registering of the content includes accessing the content at the randomly selected unique address; computing a signature of the content that includes data representative of the content; and storing the signature in ~~[[the]]~~ a database of the server with the publication ID.

29. (Currently Amended) The method as set forth in claim ~~[[26]]~~ 19, wherein the publication includes a mass email publication and the published content includes one or more email messages.

30. (Currently Amended) A method for managing an inbox on a client machine, the method comprising:

~~receiving from a content publisher, content included in a publication;~~
~~querying a server to determine whether the content is registered;~~
~~in response to the request, receiving a publication identification (ID) identifying the publication and indicating that the content is registered with the server;~~

~~determining that a user is subscribed to the publication based on finding the publication identified by the publication ID in a subscribed list stored on the client machine; and~~

~~allowing the content to reach the inbox on the client machine based on the publication being registered and the user being subscribed to the publication.~~

a content publisher registering a electronic publication with a server, the registering of the electronic publication including:

assigning to the electronic publication, a randomly selected unique address to which the content publisher is to deliver content associated with the electronic publication;—

assigning a publication identification (ID) to electronic publication, and registering content of the electronic publication by computing a signature of the content and associating the signature with the electronic publication via the publication ID;

receiving, from a content publisher, a further content at the client machine;

sending a request from the client machine to the server to determine whether the further content is registered; wherein the request including a further signature of the further content;

determining that the further content is registered by using the further signature as a key to search for the signature at the server via the publication ID;

providing the client machine with the publication ID based on determining that the further content is registered; the publication ID allowing the client machine to associate the further content with the electronic publication;

wherein the publication ID allowing the client machine to automatically move the further content into a client inbox if the further electronic publication is on a subscribed list stored on the client machine; and the publication ID allowing the client machine to automatically block or move the further content into a client spam folder if the further electronic publication is on an unsubscribed list stored on the client machine.

31. (Cancelled)

32. (Currently Amended) The method as set forth in claim 30, including performing an authentication operation to authenticate the content publisher responsive to the receiving of the further content from the content publisher.

33. (Previously Presented) The method as set forth in claim 32, wherein the authentication operation includes sending authentication information received from the content publisher to the server for verification of the authentication information.

34. (Previously Presented) The method as set forth in claim 30, wherein the publication includes a mass email publication and the content includes at least one email message.

35. (Currently Amended) The method as set forth in claim 30, wherein the client machine provides a user interface (UI) that includes an unblock button that is user-selectable to indicate ~~to the client machine~~ that the publication is to be placed on the subscribed list, and a block button that is user-selectable to indicate ~~to the client machine~~ that the publication is to ~~place~~ be placed on the unsubscribed list.

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 19, 21, 23-25, 27-30, 32-35 are allowed. The prior art of record does not teach the claimed invention, comprising a method for a content publisher to register a content publication at a server by associating a publication ID and content signature, and thereafter content received at a client requires the client to verify with the server that the content is registered before the content received at the client can be filtered as content to be placed in client inbox or client spam folder according to the registration and client subscribed list.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure is included in form PTO 892.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hieu T. Hoang whose telephone number is 571-270-1253. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Follansbee can be reached on 571-272-3964. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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/Kenny S Lin/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2452